POETRY.

[From Bugle Notes.] Work and Wishes.

If the farmer in the Spring-time, Sighed "I wish my seed were sown," Never raised his hand in labor, But just sat him down to mourn; Should you wonder if the summer Found no harvest on the plain? Should you say 'twas heaven's doings That he had no field of grain?

If the woodman in the forest Sighed, "I wish these trees were down," And then spent the time in pleasure Till the green leaves turned to brown Should you marvel if the labor Seemed progressing rather slow? Should you say that Heaven willed it, And "the thing could never go?"

Then, O Temperance men and women, If the cause moves slow to-day, Will it help the matter any To sit down and wish, I pray? Cast your seed-then look for harvest! Thin the army of the foe! Do the work that lies around you, And the work won't move so slow.

THE CHILDREN.

Buoys that Ride on the Sea.

BY OLIVE THORNE.

You wish you could do that? Well, you could if you were a buoy instead of held by an anchor; and all they do is to ally to keep the surface loose and melbob up and down on the water.

Of course you know what buoys are for -to warn sailors off from dangerous places, that can be marked in no other way. But perhaps you don't know how important they are, and how much pains is taken to have them do their duty in a perfect way. / It don't seem as if there was much trouble about it, just to anchor a wood or iron buoy at the bad place; but you must know that these uneasy fellows-like some boys-have a trick of pulling away from their proper places, and so misleading the sailors. Sometimes they have even broken entirely away from their home, and started off on a private voyage of discovery.

That does a great deal of harm, because this naughty buoy isn't a mere bit of wood or iron, but a sign of danger, and whenever a sailor sees it, he steers clear of it. So the runaway has as clear a track through the sea as a mad dog has through the streets.

To prevent such accidents as these, countries that have many buoys on their coast, as England has, send out vessels every few months to look after the uneasy fellows, see if every one is in his place, and when his paint gets worn put down.

They are not all the same color, either. Some are red, some black, others are striped or even checkered, and, worst of all, some are green. These mark the nun-buoys. It is of the greatest importance-of course-to have them show been tried. In fact the wise heads who ten or even thirty cents per bushel .and beside their regular body, they carry a figure of some sort. Some have a globe, others a triangle, and so on. The shape most in use looks like a huge round kettle, with a tight cover.

The greatest trouble about these important individuals is to make them visible at night. Ships can't tie up to post and rest over night, as river boats can, so they need the help of the buoys just as much in the dark as in the daylight. A great deal of thought has been given to the subject. Men have made it a study, and several ways have been tried, or suggested, of making the buoys useful in the dark. One way that has been tried is to fasten a bell to the rolling and tossing buoy. Of course it rings all the time and can be heard in the dark-a doleful sound it must be, too! These fellows are called bell buoys. But they are dreadful mischievous if they get loose for they may drive the ship on to the very rock they were set to guard.

Another way is to light them. That seems harder to do, but it has been done! by making the buoy carry on his head a large glass prism, and throwing light on it from a neighboring lighthouse. The prism reflects the light so strongly that the sailors think there is a light on the buoy itself.

On the French coast they have bucys carrying mirrors to reflect the light.

There's another thing in which these buoys are like you boys. Each has its own name; though to be sure the name is painted on-which is different from you again. Droll names they are, too. Some are named after people, others after birds and animals, and lots of them after different bugs. They are rather expensive -for bugs. The smallest of them cost fifty or sixty dollars, and the big onesthe twenty feet long fellows-cost between one and two thousand dollars.

England is nearly surrounded by this funny sort of guardians; and to get into her ports you go between two rows of them, black on one side and black and white striped on the other. There have been many suggestions for improving these useful fellows, but the oddest I ever heard of was the plan of making what might be called relief-buoys. That is, of such a shape that shipwrecked sailors could get into them and be safe until help came. They have not succeeded in making that work as yet, but I dare say they will before many years. I wonder if they'll be furnished with provisions and a flag of distress?

Farm and Garden.

Thoughts for the Month.

Where a crop has been well managed and properly worked up to this time, a boy. (I hope you didn't think I had | very little labor need be expended upon forgotten my spelling book.) But I don't it hereafter. Cotton will require a little believe you'd like that sort of riding, af- hoeing to remove stray weeds and bunchter all, for they are chained to one spot, es of grass, and light plowings occasionlow. All are agreed that a cotton crop should receive light workings, as long as they can be given without breaking the limbs or knocking off the bolls. The reason is obvious. The cotton plant does not mature all its fruit at once, as corn does its ears or wheat its head, but successively, and it must be kept therefore in a working state as long as the season | Hereafter to be known as will warrant. During the last stages of growth, when any additional bolls started would be likely to be cut off by frost, it is desirable to check growth and throw the whole energy of the plant into developing fruit. At this point the plows may be stopped, and sometimes the cotton topped to advantage. About the 10th of August is the period when the topping should be done to accomplish any good. If, however, the weather is wet and warm and the plant disposed to grow very rapidly, it usually accomplishes little or no good.

Late corn should receive special attention-it needs more assistance than the early planted. The ground should be kept clean and mellow, to enable it to withstand the excessive heat-possibly drought. That planted after the middle much, as it soon does with its incessant of June, ought to have some stimulating washing, he is taken off and a new one manure like cotton seed, to make it mature well before frost. Drilled corn for forage may still be planted; bottom land for this purpose, is preferable to upland.

FALL OATS.

place where a wreck lies, and are called formly favorable reports from oats sowed at the last plowing of cotton. Why should a southern farmer buy western well, and many different shapes have corn for his stock if he can raise oats at have charge of the matter can't yet agree | Every successive year confirms us in a which is the best shape. There are all high estimation of the oat crop and parmost as many forms as there are buoys, cicularly of oats sown in the early fall.

> This crop is often neglected too much, because it is supposed to be able to take care of itself. On the contrary it is greatly benefitted by workings and ought to receive them. When planted to itself it should be ploughed and hoed as regularly as any crop, until the vines take possession of the land and exclude supply. other growth. If planted in corn it should be hoed and exclusive possession of the land given to it after the fodder is palled. We are great advocates of a pea crop-having learned by long experience its very great value.-[Southern Cultiva-

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When Life Insurance Comparies were first organized, the reliability of the data upon which the premiums were constructed had not undergone the test of experience. It was thought, therefore, no more than common prudence to adopt a scale of premiums which would, in any event, meet all the presumed and unforseen contingencies of the business.

As how as the matter was involved in some doubt, it was better to find head.

As long as the matter was involved in some doubt, it was better to fix the rate too high than to incur the risk of making it too low; because, in the former case, the error could be easily remedied, at least in part, by returning to the policy-holders, at certain intervals, such portions of the premium charged as was found unnecessary for the purposes of the business and the complete security of the Company.

Experience because the intervals are intervals as the complete security of the Company.

Experience, however, having satisfactorily demonstrated that these rates are excessive, what possible excuse can there be for maintaining them?

Availing themselves of this experience, the Directors and Managers of the Universal Life In-

surface Company at its organization, adopted a scale of premiums in accordance therewith, and which has proved to be fair and adequate, and all that was necessary to meet the requirements of the business. These premiums are about twenty-five per cent, lower than those charged by Mu-It also appeared, inasmuch as the rates so established were as near as could possibly be determined fair rates, and not in excess of what Insurance has previously cost the policy-holders in Mutual Companies, that any profits arising from prudent management justly and properly belonged to the stockholders of the Company, for the risk incurred by them in undertaking the

business.

Experience has shown that there are sources of profit in the practice of the business which theory will not admit of being considered as elements in the calculation of the premiums. These result from a saving in the mortality of the members of a Company owing to the medical selection of good lives, a gain in interest on the investments of the Company over that assumed in the calculation of its premiums, the profits derivable from the lapsing and surrender of Policies where we have and from other minor sources.

Profits from these sources, in a company possessed of a capital of \$200,000, and doing a fair amount of business, would give to the stockholders dividends largely in excess of what were counted on by the Directors of the Universal at the time of its organization. They have, therefore, determined to divide among the policy-holders of the Company a large part of the profits accruing from the sources named, all of which have heretofere been divided among the stockholders. by the members, and from other minor sources.

holders.

The plan adopted for such dividends is as follows: Every person who may hereafter issure with the Universal will, for the purpose of division, be treated as a stockholder to the extent of one Annual Premium upon his Policy; and will share in the profits of the Company to precisely the same extent as a Stockholder owing on equal amount of the capital stock.

By this system of Insurance, original with the Universal, the policy-holder secures the follow-

By this system of Insurance, original with the Universal, the policy-holder secures the following important advantages:

First. Insurance at the regular "Stork" rates, requiring a primary outlay of about twenty to thirty per cent. less than that charged by Mutual Companies, and which is equivalent to a yearly "dividend" paid in advance of that amount on mutual rates. This low cost of insurance is worthy of attention. Since its organization this company has received in premiums from its policy-holders the sum of \$1,517,000. To effect the same amount of insurance in a Mutual Company would have cost them an initial outlay of \$2,000,000. By allowing its policy-holders to retain in their own possession this excess of \$483,000, the Universal has virtually paid them a "dividend" of \$483,000, and paid it, too, in advance, instead of at the end of one or more years. It is impossible to find any example of a Mutual Company furnishing insurance at so low a cost by returning to its policy-holders an equal amount upon similar receipts.

Second. Participation in the legitimate profits of the Company, upon a plan which secures to the policy-holders the same treatment which Directors and Stockholders award to themselves. This system of participation, in connection with the low "stock" rates of premium, most necessarily secure to the policy-holders every advantage to be derived from prudent and careful management.

The low rates of premium compel economy, and, independent of participation, guarantee to the policy-holder his insurance at a rate which is not in excess of the cost in well managed mutual companiesr while, by the proposed plan of participation in what may be considered the legitimate companiesr while, by the proposed plan of participation in what may be considered the legitimate companies while, by the proposed plan of participation in what may be considered the legitimate companies.

companiesr while, by the proposed plan of participation in what may be considered the legitimate profits of the business, the cost will be still further diminished.

Thus by the combined advantages arising from low stock rate and participation in the profits it is confidently believed that the UNIVERSAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY offers insurance at its lowest practicable cost.

Ratio of Assets to Liabilities 140 to 100

Surance at its lowest practicable cost.

ESD Those of the existing Policy-holders who desire to participate in the Profits under the new Plan can do so by making application to the Head Office, or to any of the Agents of the Com-The company is in a sound financial condition.

> M. W. GARY, M. C. BUTLER, State Superintendents of Agencies,

Columbia, S. C., April 11th, 1871.

Office, and to whom full General Agents' Commissions will be paid.